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A Text-Book of Physiology. By M. FOSTER, M.D. Sixth Edition, Revised. Part IV. (comprising the remainder of Book III., The Senses and Some Special Muscular Mechanisms, and Book IV., The Tissues and Mechanisms of Reproduction). New York, Macmillan & Co. 1891.

WITHOUT doubt Foster's "Text-Book of Physiology" must be accorded the foremost place among the works upon this subject, which have been published in the English language. It embodies the results of the most recent researches in this department of biological science, and is not only comprehensive, up to date, and accurate, but is admirably arranged and most convenient as an encyclopædic work of reference upon all that relates to the subject.

A large portion of the present volume is devoted to the senses, including sight, auditory sensations, olfactory sensations, gustatory sensations, cutaneous sensations, the muscular sense, and tactile perceptions and judgments. Each of these subjects is treated in a masterly manner, the anatomical elements concerned in each special sense being minutely described, and the facts and theories relating to the perception of various sensations being fully detailed.

Chapter VII., "On Some Special Muscular Mechanisms," contains three sections: one devoted to the voice, one to speech, and one to walking.

Book IV., which concludes the volume and the work, gives a very satisfactory account of "the tissues and mechanisms of reproduction."

Diphtheria, Its Natural History and Prevention. By R. THORNE THORNE, Assistant Medical Officer to Her Majesty's Local Government Board. London and New York, Macmillan & Co. 1891.

THIS is a valuable résumé of what is known at the present day with reference to the etiology and prevention of diphtheria. The volume abounds in interesting details relating to the prevalence of the disease in England and Wales, and gives numerous facts showing the not infrequent transmission of the disease by contaminated milk and its probable transmission by cats, which have been proved to be subject to the disease as a result of experimental inoculations in the trachea with bits of diphtheritic membrane, or cultures of the Klebs-Löffler diphtheria bacillus.

According to Thorne Thorne there has been a progressive increase in the mortality from diphtheria in England and Wales during the past twenty years, and this progressive increase has coincided in time with steady improvement in regard to such sanitary circumstances as water-supply, sewerage, and drainage; and also with a continuous diminution in the death-rate from the group of zymotic diseases and from typhoid fever.

The diphtheria mortality remains, as heretofore, greater in the sparsely-peopled districts, but there is a marked increase in its prevalence in large towns and cities.

Publications Received at Editor's Office.

BENOTIRE, CAPT, CHARLES. Life Histories of American Birds. Washington, Government. 4°. Paper. 413 p. Ill.

CHADWICK, FRENCH E. Temperament, Disease and Health. New York, G. P. Putnam's Sons. 8°. 85 p. 75 cts.

DALL, WILLIAM H. Instructions for Collecting Mollusks. Washington, Government. 8°. Paper. 56 p.

MOOREHEAD, WARREN K. Primitive Man in Ohio. New York, G. P. Putnam's Sons. 8°. 262 p. $3.

PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON. Bulletin 1888-91. Washington, The Society. 8°. 652 p.

RIDGWAY, ROBERT. The Humming Birds. Washington, Government 8°. Paper. 381 p.

RILEY, C. F. Directions for Collecting and Preserving Insects. Washington, Government. 8°. paper. 147 p.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA. Quarterly Bulletin. Vol. I., No. 1. 4°. Paper. 32 p.

Reading Matter Notices.

Ripans Tabules: best liver tonic.

Ripans Tabules cure jaundice.

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For information address Mr. FRITZ RUHL, President of the Societas Entomologica, Zurich-Hottingen, Switzerland.

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Wants.

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